

The Sensational SPIDER-MAN

BACK IN BLACK



Angel Medina
Scott Hanna



3:00 A.M.



COME ON, COME ON...



...I HAD THIS DOWN TO 30 SECONDS LAST NIGHT...



UHM, EXCUSE ME--



--BUT MAYBE I COULD HELP?

HUH?

WHO?

The Strange Case of...

PART ONE OF THREE

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GIVE YOU THREE TRIES AND THE FIRST TWO DON'T COUNT!

LET ME GUESS: YOU LOCKED YOURSELF OUT!

OR: YOU WANTED TO SURPRISE YOUR WIFE!
OR MAYBE--

--I'M REALLY A COP AND THIS IS A SETUP, SPIDER-PUNK.

CLANKKK!

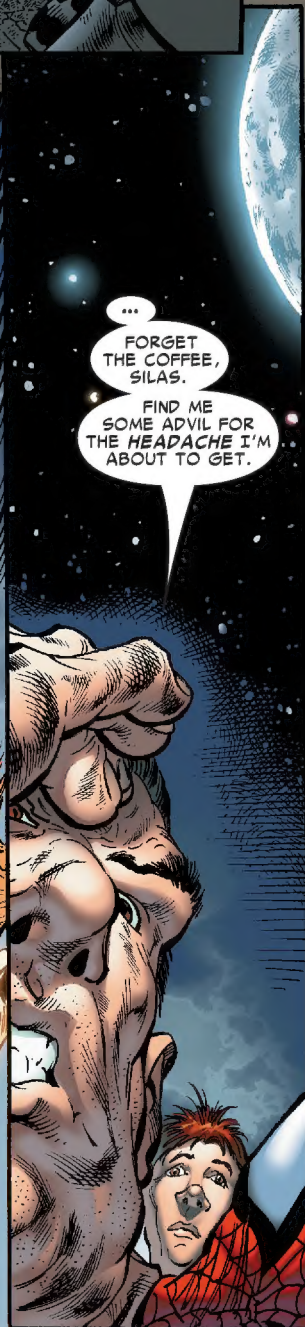
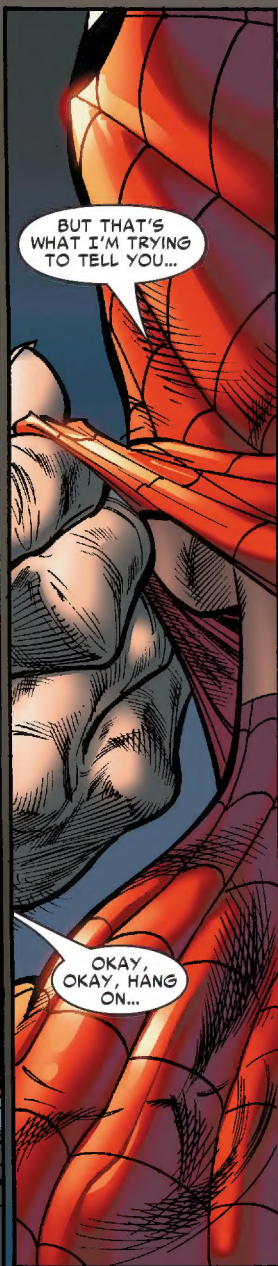
CLANKKK!

FREEZE!

HANDS UP, PARKER!

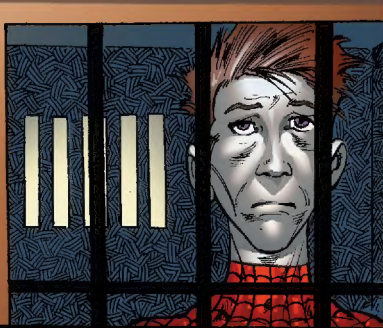
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FIND ME SOME ADVIL FOR THE HEADACHE I'M ABOUT TO GET.

SPIDER-MAN SPAWNS COPYCAT!!



...FOR THE
MILLIONTH TIME, I
DON'T KNOW HIS NAME
OR WHO HE WAS...I
NEVER EVEN SAW
HIM, REALLY...

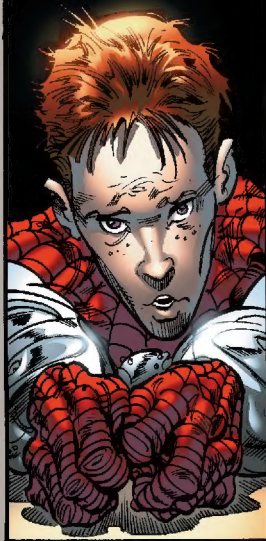
THIS STRANGER
WHO JUST DROVE
UP TO YOU? AND
ASKED YOU--



YOUNG
MAN, WOULD
YOU LIKE TO
BE A SUPER
HERO?
I BELIEVE
YOU'D FIND IT...
REWARDING.



I JUST...
GOT INTO THE
CAR. HE WAS
IN THE FRONT, I
WAS IN THE BACK.
HE DIDN'T TURN
AROUND, AND...HE
MUST'VE BEEN
PUMPING SOMETHING
THROUGH THE VENTS,
LIKE GAS OR SOME-
THING, BECAUSE
THE NEXT THING
I KNEW...



DON'T
PANIC. YOU'VE
ALREADY BEGUN
TO EVOLVE.



IT WAS
TRUE. I COULD
ALREADY
FEEL MY BODY
CHANGING...







AND YOU
DECIDED TO PLAY
SPIDER-MAN AND...
BUST SOME
HEADS?

SOMETHING
LIKE THAT,
YEAH...

"...I JUST...I WANTED TO
SEE WHAT IT WOULD *FEEL*
LIKE, YOU KNOW?

"I MEAN, I DIDN'T
HAVE HIS WEBS, BUT I
HAD EVERYTHING ELSE."

EXCEPT
THE CHOPS.

AND YOU
REALLY HAVE NO
CLUE WHO YOUR...
BENEFACTOR WAS
OR WHERE
HE IS?

I'D TELL
YOU IF I COULD,
DETECTIVE FOGG,
BUT...



...LOOK, I LEFT HOME AND CAME TO NEW YORK
BECAUSE...WELL, BECAUSE I *HAD* TO, OKAY?
AND THIS GUY, WHOEVER HE IS, WAS *DECENT*
TO ME. A LOT MORE THAN MOST OF THE
OTHER PEOPLE I'VE MET SINCE
I GOT HERE.

BUT...HE *DID*
SOMETHING TO YOU, KID.
YOU WERE SOME KIND OF...
OF *EXPERIMENT* TO
HIM.

HE MADE
ME *STRONGER*
AND *BETTER*,
DETECTIVE.



...
WELL, WE'RE
STILL TRYING TO
GET IN TOUCH WITH
YOUR FOLKS BACK
IN CINCINNATI--



YEAH,
BIG MISTAKE.

--SO I'LL
TAKE YOU TO
YOUR CELL, YOU CAN
GET SOME SLEEP, AND
WE'LL GO OVER THIS
AGAIN TOMORROW
MORNING.



THE TOMBS, NYC's
NASTIEST prison.

My sources tell me this is where
they're keeping Ethan Myers until
he's **TRANSFERRED** to Ryker's.

("Sources." Man, I sound
like a cheap, dime-
store novel detective...)

You know...

...all **NOIR**.

But hey, if the
bodysuit **FITS**...

Top floor, fourth window from
the left, on the north side, that's
what Detective Lamont told me.

HMM. Spidey-
sense crackling...

ETHAN?
ETHAN
MYERS?

I'M HERE TO
DISCUSS SOME ISSUES
OF COPYRIGHT
INFRINGEMENT...

...HEL-LO?
ANYBODY UP?

I THOUGHT
NEWBIES TO THE
PENAL SYSTEM WERE
SUPPOSED TO BE
TOO SCARED TO--

...HEL...

...HELP...

...HURTS
SO MUCH...

All I need
to hear--

(And so much
for maintaining a
low profile...)



THWIP!

THWIP!

...SPIDER-MAN...

...HELP ME...



OH MY GOD--

--WHAT'S HAPPENING HERE?



ETHAN. ETHAN, LISTEN TO ME: WHEN DID THIS START?



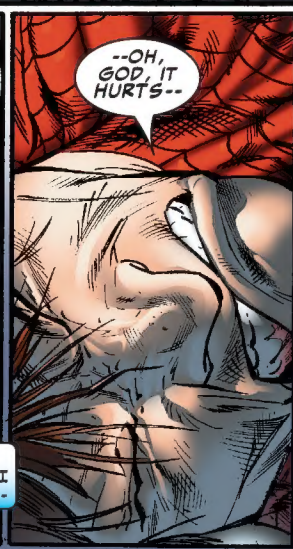
--PLEASE-- PLEASE--HELP ME--



I WILL--I AM--

Even though I'm not sure I can **MOVE** him--

Even though I don't know where I should **TAKE** him--



--OH, GOD, IT HURTS--



DAMN IT-- NOTHING TO DO BUT--



STICK AROUND LONG ENOUGH, AND EVENTUALLY THEY'LL CYCLE YOU OFF THE GRAVEYARD SHIFT.

YEAH? HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN ON IT?

BUT IT'S NOT SO BAD, REALLY. MOST NIGHTS--
WELL... ELEVEN YEARS.

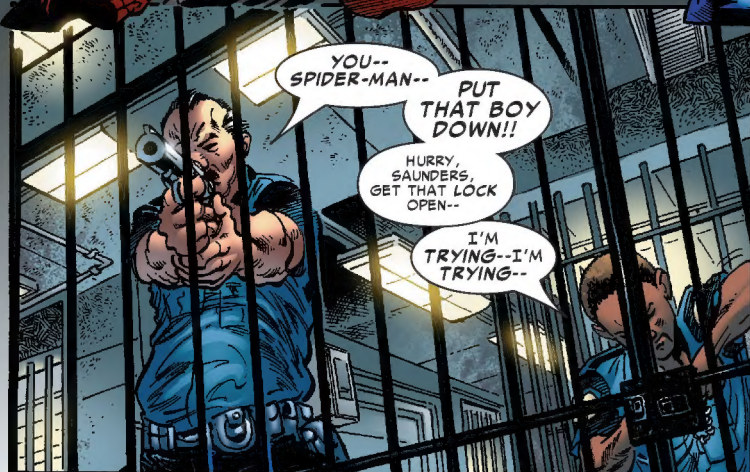


WHAT'S GOING ON IN MYERS' CELL?

--HOLD UP.



STAY WITH ME, ETHAN, OKAY? AND I'LL TRY TO MAKE THIS AS PAINLESS A RIDE AS POSSIBLE.

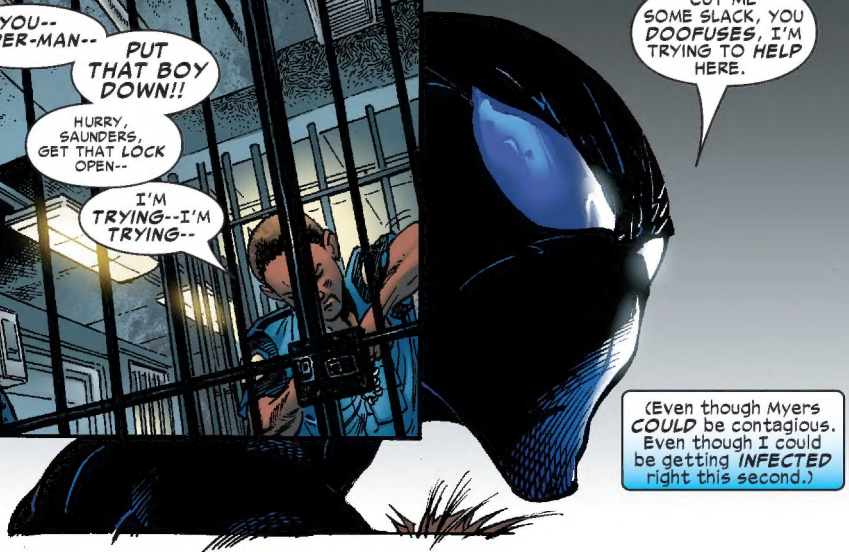


YOU-- SPIDER-MAN--

PUT THAT BOY DOWN!!

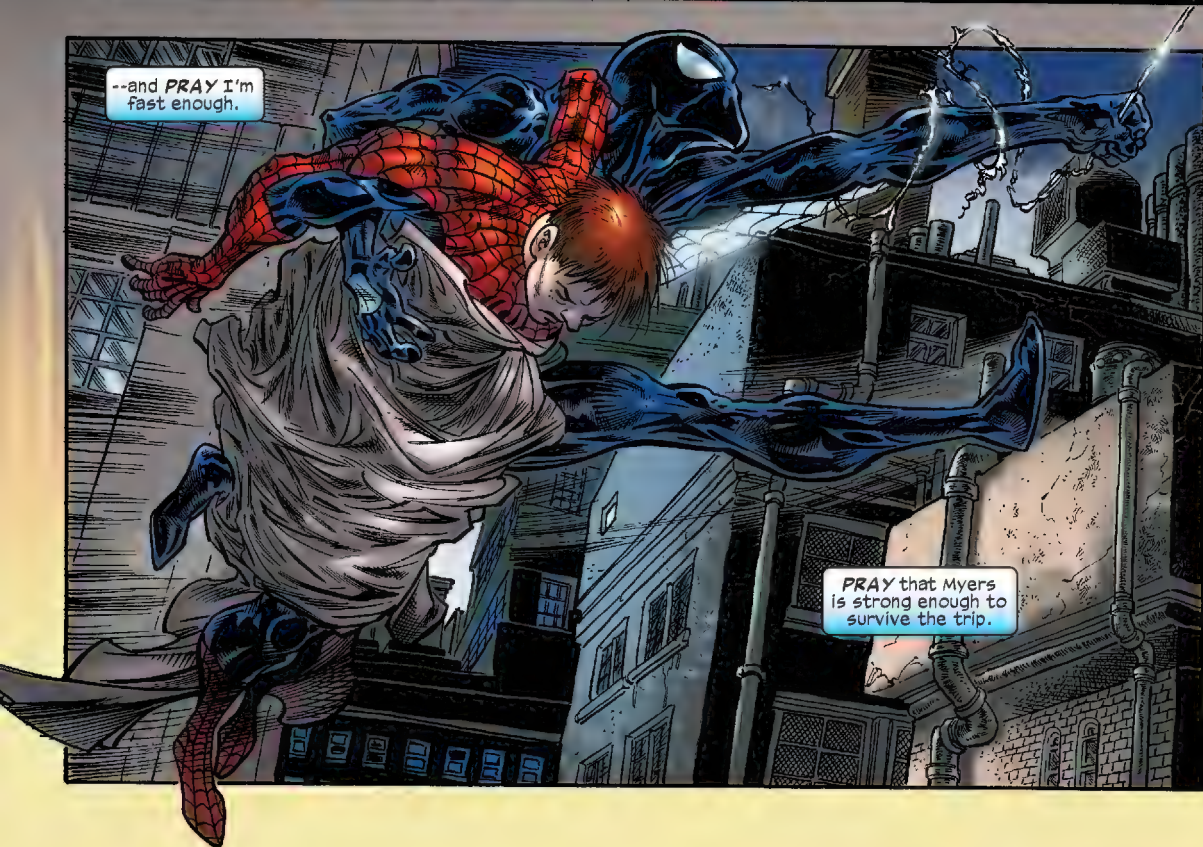
HURRY, SAUNDERS, GET THAT LOCK OPEN--

I'M TRYING--I'M TRYING--



CUT ME SOME SLACK, YOU DOOFUSES, I'M TRYING TO HELP HERE.

(Even though Myers **COULD** be contagious. Even though I could be getting **INFECTED** right this second.)





NOT AT ALL, DR. RICHARDS. SINCE I STARTED WORKING THE NIGHT SHIFT AT METRO-GENERAL, I'VE GROWN QUITE ACCUSTOMED TO... "UNORTHODOX."

AND I'M HONORED YOU TRUSTED ME ENOUGH TO CALL. THE LAST TIME I SAW YOU WAS WHEN YOUR FRIEND... WHEN HE DIED...

I REMEMBER.

... WHAT'S TAKING HIM SO LONG, I WONDER? IT'S BEEN ALMOST HALF AN HOUR SINCE THE POLICE CALLED AND FIFTEEN MINUTES SINCE HE CALLED ME.

YEAH, SORRY ABOUT THAT...

...BUT I HAD TO A) AVOID THE POLICE, AND B) GIVE THE KID AS SMOOTH A RIDE AS POSSIBLE.

THANKS FOR COMING, DOC. I WASN'T SURE YOU WOULD.

SPIDER-MAN. WHATEVER ELSE MAY BE HAPPENING IN THE WORLD, I'M ALWAYS HERE TO HELP, WHENEVER YOU NEED ME.

Richards means it. That's why I risked asking him to meet me on this roof, AWAY from the police.

LORD, YOU WEREN'T JOKING, WERE YOU? THIS BOY'S METAMORPHOSIS...IT'S FASCINATING.

JUST FIND OUT WHAT'S DOING THIS TO HIM, ALL RIGHT? AND MAKE HIM BETTER, FOR GOD'S SAKE!

... OF COURSE, PETER. I'LL BE IN TOUCH.

WE'LL GO DOWN THIS WAY AND THEN OVER TO THE HOSPITAL, DR. RICHARDS...

I want to tell Myers not to worry.
That Doc Richards is the **BEST** at
what he does...that if there's any-
thing to do, he'll do it...

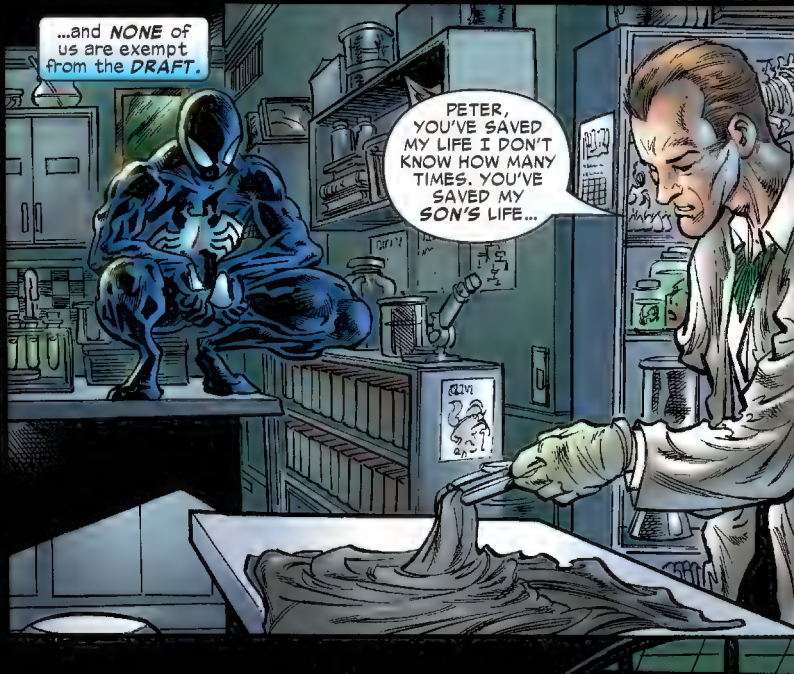
...but I'm not feeling
particularly **OPTIMISTIC**
at the moment.

And not just because
my family has been
put through the wringer...

THWIP!

THWIP!

...but because even
though the **WAR** may
be over, **BATTLES**
are still raging...



...and **NONE** of us are exempt from the **DRAFT**.

PETER, YOU'VE SAVED MY LIFE I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY TIMES. YOU'VE SAVED MY **SON'S** LIFE...



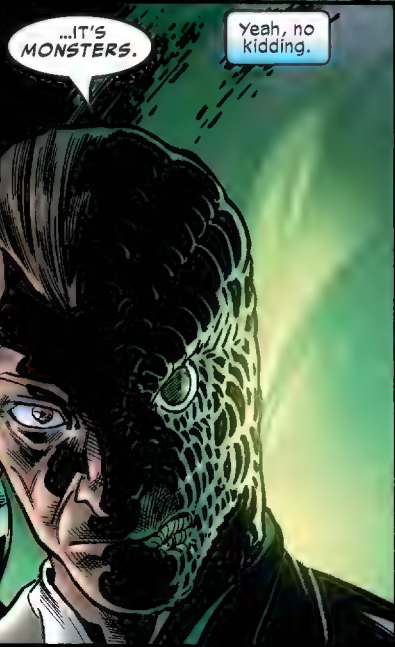
...YOU DON'T NEED TO EXPLAIN ANYTHING.

OF COURSE I'LL ANALYZE THE FLUIDS ON THIS BLANKET.



THANKS, DOC. I'M NOT EVEN SURE WHAT YOU'D BE LOOKING FOR, A CHEMICAL OR AN ENZYME OR A HORMONE, BUT **SOMETHING** TURNED THIS KID INTO A MONSTER AND I DON'T THINK IT WAS MAGIC.

I UNDERSTAND. IF THERE'S **ONE** THING I'M FAMILIAR WITH...



...IT'S MONSTERS.

yeah, no kidding.



... Okay, so now I've got **RICHARDS** working to save the kid's life and **DOC CONNORS** trying to figure out what the hell happened to him.

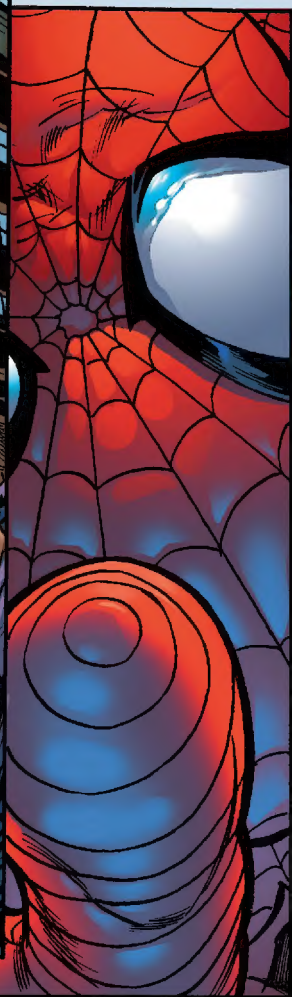
Wish I at least knew
if this was an
ISOLATED incident...

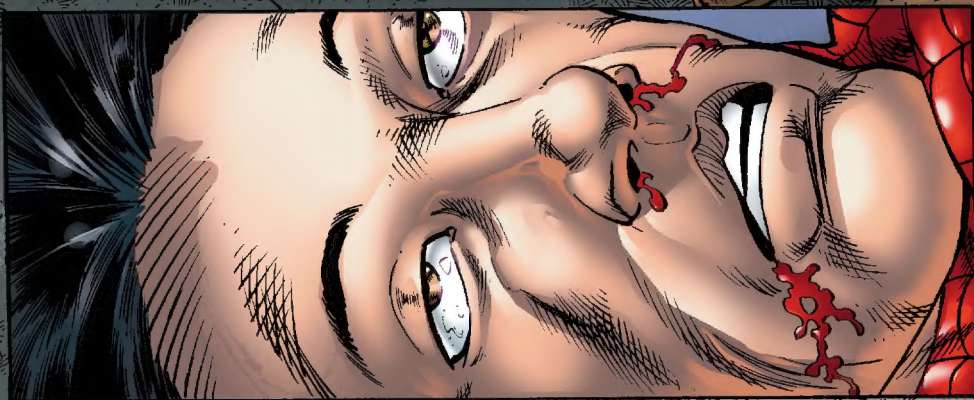
...or part of a
BIGGER problem.

HOLY
\$%*&, THIS
ROCKS.

I'M
FREAKING
SPIDER-
MAN!

I'M--







"...THERE'S SOME
SERIOUS MESSED-UP
F%\$@ GOING ON..."

JORDAN?
JORDAN
HARRISON?

THE LOWER EAST SIDE.



UHM...
YEAH. CAN
I HELP
YOU?



CAN
AND WILL, MR.
HARRISON.

WHY DON'T
YOU START BY
GETTING INTO
MY CAR?

JORDAN,
DON'T--

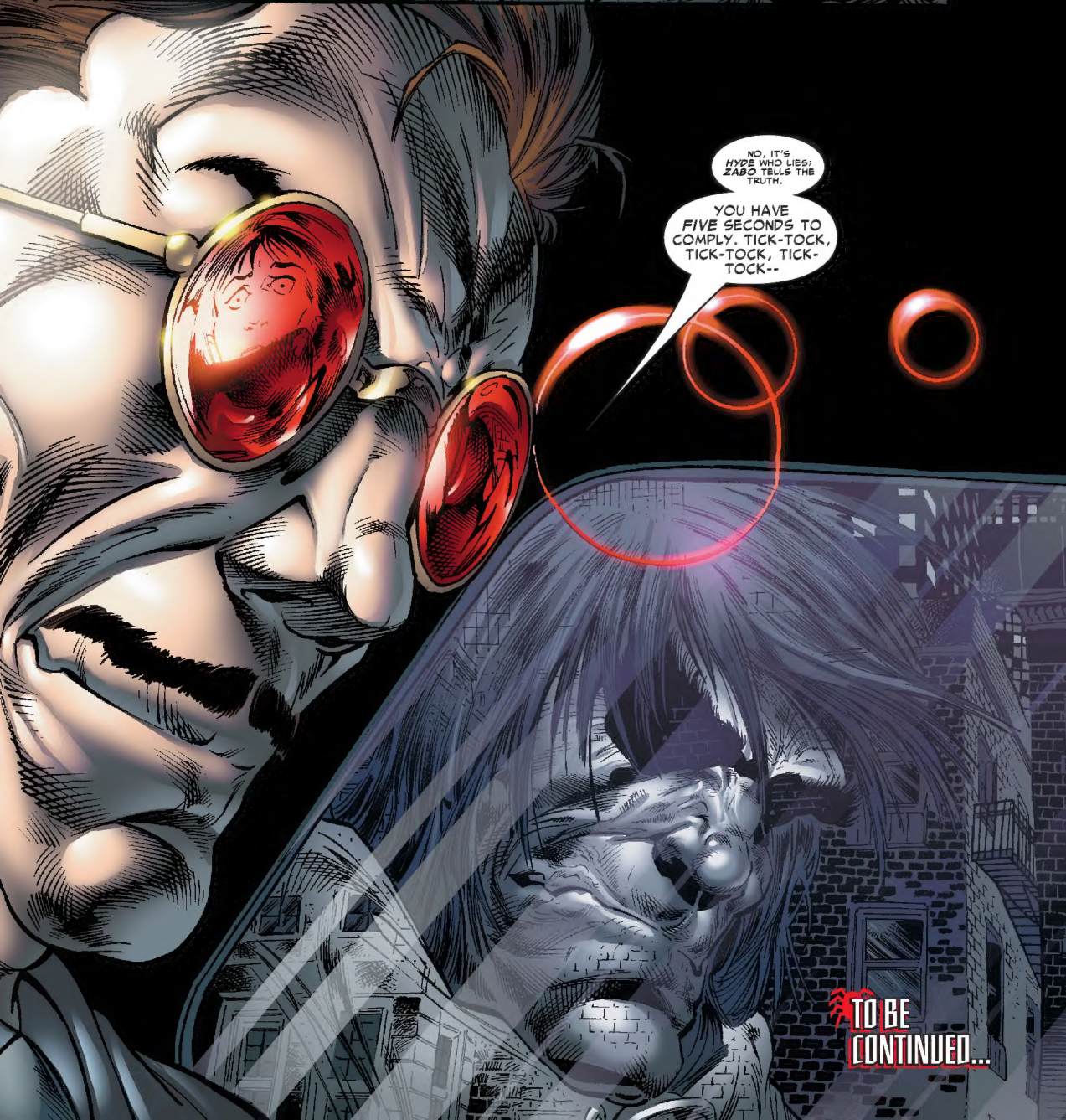


IT'S OKAY,
MADELINE, I GOT
THIS.

LOOK...
WHOEVER YOU
ARE, WHATEVER
YOU WANT, YOU'RE
CRAZY IF YOU
THINK I'M GOING
ANYWHERE WITH
YOU, CREEP.



SIGH+



**TO BE
CONTINUED...**